

# VALUABLE

## LOST AT HOME

**Is there something you are always misplacing?** (Your glasses, your cell phone, your keys, your remote, etc.)

**What is your strategy to try to find it?**

Last week, Pastor Chris shared the word about a shepherd who went looking for a lost sheep. He was willing to leave the other 99 in order to find the one. This week, he shared Jesus' story about a woman who had lost a coin.

**Luke 15: 8-10**—Or what woman who has ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? 9 When she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, because I have found the silver coin I lost!' 10 I tell you, in the same way, there is joy in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who repents.

**What are the three things the woman did to find her lost coin?**

1. Turned on her \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Swept her \_\_\_\_\_.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ carefully.

**Matthew 5:14**—You are the light of the world. A city situated on a hill cannot be hidden.

**Ephesians 5:8**—For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light—

**According to these verses, what does it mean to “turn on your light?”**

We can never \_\_\_\_\_ what is lost if we ourselves remain \_\_\_\_\_.

**What are some ways that people can know we are Christians?**

## How is our faith like a lighthouse to others?

The second thing she did was to \_\_\_\_\_ her house.

Sweeping was an \_\_\_\_\_ that she took.

Many Christians remain idle, waiting for the lost and wayward to come to them. That would be like the woman losing a coin, then sitting down and waiting for it to come to her. This woman was proactive in her search.

In Scripture, the reference to “house” can also refer to what is going on in our \_\_\_\_\_.

## What are some of the proactive ways we can “sweep” our heart?

**Actively look for \_\_\_\_\_ to help.**

**Maintain a healthy \_\_\_\_\_ life.**

This is done through:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The Jews have a tradition of thoroughly cleaning their entire house—from top to bottom just before the feast of Passover. The purpose is to completely purge their kitchen from leaven (which represented sin to Israel in the time of Moses). They further clean their whole house, throwing out the junk and wiping out the dust. This represents cleaning out the junk in our hearts and minds that keep us from focusing on the important things of God.

The third thing she did was to search the house carefully.

Notice the sheep were lost in the \_\_\_\_\_, but the coin was \_\_\_\_\_.

**Consider the people who are nearest and dearest to you. Is there someone “lost in your house?”**

**In what ways can we reach those who are living closest among us?**

## **VALUE**

**Did the value of the coin change because it was lost?**

In Pastor Chris' sermon, he told about the Jewish tradition of the groom giving the bride-to-be a necklace made of 10 coins. Individually each coin would have been worth about a day's wage. Together, the necklace would have been priceless to the bride.

**What is an item that someone gave to you that is priceless in your eyes?**

**What makes that item priceless to you?**

Wearing the betrothal necklace told the world that the bride was loved and loved the one who adored her. To wear the broken necklace would make the groom look bad or cheap. So to this woman the coin was priceless because of who gave it to her and what it meant for their future.

**Thinking of the people God has placed in your life, do you see them as priceless gifts? Are they worth “sweeping your house” for?**

**Would you be willing to go out of your way more for one of your own family or for a stranger?**

Remember, it might be a stranger who is able to reach your loved ones for Christ! Will you reach the loved one of a stranger?

The Bible tells us that the Church (as a whole) is The Bride of Christ. The people in our life is the necklace He has given to us. What will we do if we appear before Him in eternity with even one missing? Search your house!

## **PRAYER TIME**

- Thank God for people who did what they did to bring the message of the Gospel to you.
- Ask God to help you to turn on your light to this dark world. Practice your testimony so you will be ready to offer it to someone who is going through anything similiar.
- Pray that you will be disciplined enough to sweep your life clean of anything that gets in the way of your testimony.
- Ask God to give you eyes that can see the depth of need in others. Also pray for spiritual health of those closest to you. Pray for the lost in your house. Pray for the lost in God's house.